



COUNCIL

American Society of Plant Biologists

Committee meeting, January 21, 2021; 11:00 am EDT
Via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/3012960900>

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Callis, Judy	Chair, Immediate Past President
<input type="checkbox"/>	Axtell, Mike	Mid-Atlantic Section Rep
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brusslan, Judy	Western Section Rep
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Burch-Smith, Tessa	Chair, Science Policy Committee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chapman, Kent	Treasurer; chair, BoT
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chapple, Clint	Elected member, by ballot
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dehesh, Katie	President-elect
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dharmasiri, Nihal	Southern Section Rep
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Laurie Smith	Chair, Membership Committee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Farre, Eva	Chair WIPB
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Foyer, Christine	Elected member, by ballot
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Friedman, Erin	Chair, Education Committee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Geitmann, Anja	Chair, International Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Heaton, Emily	Environmental and Ecological Plant Physiology Section Rep
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lee-Parsons, Carolyn	Northeastern Section Rep
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MacIntosh, Gustavo	Midwest Section Rep; Council-elected member, BoD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Masalia, Rishi	ECPS Section Rep
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McCann, Maureen	President
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	McIntyre, Katy	Chair, Ambassador Alliance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Parrott, Wayne	Secretary, and Chair, Program Committee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rellán Álvarez, Rubén	México Section Rep
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Theg, Steve	Chair, Publications Committee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Thornton, Leeann	PUI Section Rep
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Trujillo, Josh	Early Career Representative
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vega-Sanchez, Miguel	Chair, Equity Diversity and Inclusion Committee (EDIC)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Taylor, Crispin	CEO (ex officio; non-voting)

STAFF/GUESTS:

- Phil Taylor (Chair, ASPBForward)
- Other ASPBForward members
- Clara Woodall (CFO)
- Nancy Winchester (director of publications)
- Jean Rosenberg (director of meetings and events)
- Sylvia Lee (executive and governance affairs administrator)
- Shoshana Kronfeld (senior manager, membership)
- Katie Rogers (community engagement administrator)

Meeting Minutes

- 1. Opening:** Judy Callis opened the meeting at 11:03 AM EST.
- 2. Approval of the agenda:** Judy requested approval of the agenda. Motion made by Gustavo and seconded by Rubén. Approved by unanimous consent, no changes.
- 3. Approval of minutes from October 8, 2020 Meeting:** Judy asked for approval of the minutes from the October meeting. No changes were suggested. Leeann moved to approve the minutes, and Christine seconded. Minutes approved by unanimous consent.
- 4. Welcome members new to Council 2020-2021:** Those members not in attendance at the October meeting introduced themselves.
- 5. Action item: Discussion and vote on putting proposed changes to the ASPB Constitution on the 2021 ballot:**

Judy presented the nature of the proposed changes to the constitution, the history behind these proposed changes and then opened the floor for discussion. The proposed changes arose from concerns expressed by membership regarding the current nominations and ballot selection process. An ad hoc committee was formed to study other societies' voting procedures and to recommend a new procedure that practiced equity and diversity. Three possible scenarios emerged from the committee for discussion. These were submitted to Council in 2020 and two of them were put forward for public comment late summer and early fall 2020. One process was strongly favored by membership, and this is the process presented today. Two substantive changes were explained: expansion of the nomination committee to include a representative for EDIC, from Council, and from the ECR section; and a change to the nominations process to require one nominee from membership at large. Discussion: Overall, this revision was viewed favorably by Council, especially the expanded nomination committee, with the caveat that Council should be aware of diversity when selecting its member. Motion made by Gustavo to place these proposed changes on the 2021 election ballot; Judy seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.
- 6. Informational Item: ASPB updates (Judy, Wayne, Kent, Crispin; 10 mins)**

Wayne and Jean presented information on the status of the 2021 annual meeting. Crispin presented that the budget was passed for fiscal year 2021 by BoD. With our partnership with OUP, there is an opportunity to think about re-organizing staff activities to better meet members' needs. Two main goals of reorganization: first, to break down barriers between departments to act more holistically, and second, to better support membership. This work is ongoing. Nancy Winchester reported on status of OUP partnership. All content has migrated. Posting of author accepted manuscripts on the OUP sites has started. More strategic meetings are planned. Nancy's current focus is on getting production processes properly organized.
- 7. Informational item: Launch of Changing Climates and Cultures resource**

Miguel Vega-Sanchez announced that a Plantae-based website will be officially launched on Martin Luther King Day. See <https://plantae.org/education/changing-culture-and-climate/>

This effort represents the sum of many individuals' work, especially Katie Rogers, who took ideas and created the site together with Mary Williams. Spearheading the group is Terri Long, and the site was very much a collaboration with NAASC (North American Arabidopsis Steering Committee) with much of the thinking behind it led by early career researchers from both communities.

The community is invited to use the site, advertise its presence to others at your home institutions, and to continue to contribute to this resource. There is a comment form to make suggestions. Thanks to Katie Rogers for all her hard work, and to all others that served on the committee.

8. Updating ASPB's Diversity Statement.

The statement was written in 2014 and could use updating. EDIC was asked to comment and provide suggestions. These were forwarded to Crispin who will draft a new version.

9. Informational item: Update from ASPBForward This item was postponed to March meeting.

10. Informational Item: Please read statements from sections/committees.

With the goal of coordinating efforts, committees submitted statements indicating ongoing activities (see attachment). Leeann announced that the PUI section coordinated with the ECPS section for a meeting workshop and plans to reach out to EDIC. Discussion ensued about how to advertise workshops with labels to indicate their relevance to specific missions, such as mentoring, diversity, careers, etc. Wayne indicated that workshops will have tracks and can have multiple tracks.

Section representatives updated Council on the status of their annual meetings. Midwestern Section is planning to be virtual; Southern Section will be virtual; and Western section postponed their meeting until 2022.

Rishi reported that the ECPS section has an ECPS Council, analogous to this one, and is seeking representatives for this council from the SPC and the International Committee, as well as from all of the geographic sections.

Action Items:

1. Forward proposed changes to constitution to be placed on 2021 ballot
2. Stay tuned for announcements regarding the annual meeting
3. Use and contribute to the CCC website
4. Look at ASPBforward materials
5. Look for opportunities for collaborations among committees and sections.

11. There was no other business.

12. Motion to adjourn by Gustavo, seconded by Rishi and passed by unanimous consent. Meeting adjourned 12:03.